

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

Held on Friday, October 30, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in Room EV 2.309

09-08

Present:

R. Drew (Chair), O. Ahmad, O. Ait Mohamed, C. Alecsandru, S. T. Alkass, J. Bale, J. Beaudoin, A. Ben Hamza, S. Bergler, T. Bui, H. Cooper, E. Cotran, M. Debbabi, D. Dysart-Gale, A. Fagnoli, V. S. Hoa, H. Hong, S. Li, W. E. Lynch, S. Mudur, C. Mulligan, M. Nokken, M. Pugh, T. Radhakrishnan, N. Shiri, C. W. Trueman, L. Wang, P. Wood-Adams, H. Yin, A. Youssef, L. Zack, M. Zaheeruddin, R. G. Zmeureanu, G. Morrissey (Secretary)

Guest:

O. Rovinescu

Regrets:

Z. Bencheikh, N. Bouguila, J. M. Edwards, W. Ghaly, D. Graham, F. Iqbal, M. Lindstrom, S. Mudur, L. Narayanan, V. Patgel, P. Pillay, A. Qasem, J. Rilling, K. Schmitt, E. S. Takhtehfouladi, J. Woodsworth, W.P. Zhu

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion That the agenda be adopted as submitted.
2009-08-01 (R. Zmeureanu/ M. Debbabi)

2. Adoption of Minutes

Motion That the Minutes of Meeting 2009-07 (October 9, 2009) be adopted as submitted
2009-08-02 with correction of Dr. Shiri's first initial to N of the attendees list.
(M. Pugh / R. Zmeureanu)

Vote: Carried unanimously

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair informed everyone that he, along with the Associate Deans and Chairs, attended the Industrial Advisory Committee meeting on October 29, 2009. The theme of the meeting was "Infrastructure Management". The meeting was an opportunity for both the University and Industry to get feedback from one another. Dean Drew noted that people from industry believe that students should have better communication and teamwork skills. There was also a speaker from Infrastructure Canada who commented on how today's engineers are better and more well-rounded than past engineers. For those who wish to have more information on the meeting are more than welcome to speak with the Chairs of the departments and obtain a copy of the minutes. For the next Industrial Advisory Committee meeting, the theme will be "Gaming".

The Dean shared the following announcements:

The Faculty was featured in the October 15 issue of the *Concordia Journal*, in an article entitled "Student Dreams Fly High," which focused on a recent visit by Engineering students of the Mechtronix facilities on the West Island. Mechtronix are avid supporters of the Faculty. They have provided funds for a new truck for SAE; and they will be providing renovation funds for space in the Hall Building, which is an area used by students to work on projects such as SAE and Capstone. The renovations should be completed soon.

The Electrical Power and Energy Conference was held on October 22nd and 23rd here in Montreal, and it was chaired by Dr. Pillay. The subject of the conference was "Sustainable/Renewable Energy Systems and Technologies." Over 200 delegates from around the world attended, and Concordia was very well represented.

The President's Conference will be held on Wednesday, November 4th on "Surveillance, Security, and the end of Privacy." Conference on "Surveillance, Security, and the end of Privacy." Dr. Debbabi will speak at the event's morning session, entitled "Your Life as a Crime Scene Investigation." Dr. Suen will speak at the afternoon session, entitled "The Science of Surveillance: Every Smile You Fake."

Fall convocation is coming up on November 13. Mr. Robert Walsh, President and founder of Forensic Technology, will receive an honorary doctorate. After graduating from Loyola College in 1963, Walsh went on to study mechanical engineering at McGill. He started his own company Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) which revolutionized the way that firearm crimes are investigated and solved by tracing digital fingerprints on bullets or cartridges.

Dean Drew encouraged those who have not signed up for Convocation to please do so.

The Dean's Excellence Awards ceremony will be held on November 11th.

4. **Presentation of the Services of CTLS by Ms. Olivia Rovinescu**

Dean Drew welcomed Ms. Rovinescu to Faculty Council.

Ms. Olivia Rovinescu, Director of CTLS, gave a 20-minute presentation discussing the services that CTLS has to offer such as seminars, workshop, and faculty luncheons. She provided informative handouts. Ms. Rovinescu advised that the main function of CTLS was to work with faculty members and teaching assistants along with graduate students who are interested in pursuing an academic career. CTLS also handles the course evaluations. They have an extensive and resourceful website. ENCS faculty member including Drs. Acemian, Grogono, Trueman and Vastistas have been featured on their website. In addition, CTLS offers technology support for professors wanting to enhance their knowledge of moodle, cast their own website as well as any new technology.

CTLS is involved in the Student Response Technology a.k.a. clickers which are being used by professors including Drs. Acemian and Narayanan. From feedback, the clickers do improve learning for the students. CTLS will also be conducting massive interviews at the shuttle. It is called "From the Shuttle". This will be an opportunity to find out the needs of the students and what is also needed to engage them. To encourage students to come to class, it was suggested that professors not post all course material on Moodle.

There was a concern regarding measuring engineering tools for accreditation. Ms. Rovinescu suggested to work together to come up with a solution. She also offered to have a 1/2 day workshop for specific departments on teamwork.

Ms. Rovinescu thanked Council and advised that CTLS looks forward to working with faculty members and teaching assistants along with graduates.

5. **Graduate Curriculum Proposals for the 2009-10 Academic Year Co-op (Industrial Experience) Option in the Course-Based Master's Programs (ECFC 2009-08-01)**

**Motion
2009-08-03**

Dr. Mulligan moved that document ECFC 2009-08-01 Graduate Curriculum Proposals for the 2009-10 Academic Year Co-op (Industrial Experience) Option in the Course-Based Master's Programs for approval.

(C. Mulligan / W. E. Lynch)

It was agreed upon to bring this proposal along with the modifications to the next Faculty Council for approval.

Table motion: C. Mulligan / W. E. Lynch

Vote: Carried unanimously

6. **Ratifications of Appointments for Membership on the Student Request Committee 2009-2010 (ECFC 2009-08-02)**

**Motion
2009-08-04**

Dr. Trueman moved that document ECFC 2009-08-02 Ratifications of Appointments for Membership on the Student Request Committee 2009-2010 for approval.

(C. W. Trueman / M. Pugh)

Vote: Carried unanimously

7. **Recommendations for Modifications to the Student's Transcript (ECFC 2009-08-03)**

**Motion
2009-08-05**

Dr. Zmeureanu moved that document ECFC 2009-08-03 Graduate Recommendations for Modifications to the Student's Transcript for comments and suggestions.

There was much discussion and feedback regarding document ECFC 2009-08-03.

The document proposes a change for the Undergraduate Calendar, in which a minimum cumulated and annual GPA of 2.0 is required for a student to graduate. Presently, the calendar states that in order to graduate the student must satisfy all program requirements and must be in acceptable standing. Therefore, it was suggested to change the name of the transcript document since the document also proposes changes to the academic requirements. It was reminded that CEAB must be taken into consideration as well when making academic changes. Furthermore, it was recommended that the Transcript Committee use caution when changing the academic requirement. Presently, the graduation GPA for engineering only includes the engineering courses plus one general elective outside the Faculty. It was recommended that this stay the same.

Ms. Fargnoli also mentioned that once graduation is conferred, the cumulative is replaced with the graduation GPA, and the annual disappears on the transcript. The graduation GPA cannot be calculated ahead of time. She recommended to no longer show graduation GPA and to just show the cumulative. It is up to the individual institutions what they use as a graduation requirement. When looking at a GPA on other university's transcripts, it cannot be determined how it was actually calculated.

It was also suggested that it would be useful to the advisors if the GPA could be on the transcripts for each semester.

8. **Other Business**

Dr. Bergler recommended having the council documents projected on the screen for the future meetings. Dean Drew recommended that this should be further investigated.

9. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.
(R. Zmeureanu / C. W. Trueman)